

April 21, 2006

Dow Hits Six-Year High Economy/Jobs Continue to Expand

A day after the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at a six-year high, the Bureau of Labor Statistics today released its State Employment and Unemployment report for month ending March 2006. Among other encouraging economic news, the report indicates that:

- Over the past year nonfarm payroll employment in 48 States and the District of Columbia ~~increased~~ **increased** by 1.4 million jobs.
- Jobless rates were **down** 0.2 percentage points over the year in 43 States and the District of Columbia.
- From March 2005 to March 2006 Missouri ~~added~~ **added** nearly 34,000 jobs and the unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points.

"The pro-growth policies Republicans have pursued – both in Washington and here in Missouri - have created this strong economy and millions of new jobs," said Akin.

"Despite increased energy prices and international instability, under Republican leadership the American economy has grown stronger and continues to be the envy of the world," concluded Akin.